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Staines Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

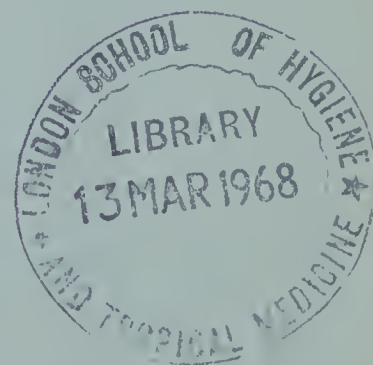
of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

1966



CONTENTS

	Page
Constitution of Public Health Committee and Staff of Public Health Department	1
Medical Officer of Health's Report	2
Provision of Hospitals and Clinics	3
General Statistics and Vital Statistics	4
Tables:	
Causes of Death	5
Infant Deaths	6
Infectious diseases notified	7
Tuberculosis notifications and deaths	8
Water	9
Report of Chief Public Health Inspector	10
Summary of Inspections	11
Housing Statistics	12
Improvement Grants	13
Rent Act, 1957	14
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	23
Caravans	14
Clean Air Act	22
Food and Drugs	17
Inspection and Supervision of Food	15
Legal Proceedings	19
Inspection of Meat	20
Pest Destruction	26
Factories Act	27



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1

STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Committee

Chairman: Councillor T.R. Simmons

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J.J. McGowan

Councillors Bishop, Hemsley, Pett, Rogers, and
Mrs. Spencer.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health (part-time)

L.A. MATHESON, M.B.,CH.B.,D.P.H.,D.C.H.,
Council Offices, Bridge Street, Staines. Tel: Staines 55955.

Chief Public Health Inspector

JOHN MULLIN, M.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.,A.I.HSG.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

R.I. SHEPHERD, M.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors

G.A. EVANS, M.A.P.H.I.

G. WALTON, M.A.P.H.I.

J.A.K. GARRATT

P.A. SNAITH, Pupil

Technical Assistants

H.A. CROUCHER

A.H. FULLER

Chief Clerk

MISS L.M. PERRYMAN

Public Analyst

D.D. MOIR, M.Sc.,F.R.I.C.

STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1966. This is also the first complete year since reorganization of Local Government in which this Urban District has been part of the Northern Division of Surrey County Council.

The population continues to increase, and is now 54,430, being an increase of 640 over the previous year. The birth rate remains at a higher level than for the country as a whole, as the population is mainly young, and unlike the decreasing figures reported in other districts the actual number of live births is slightly larger than for last year (990 c.f. 986). There is a welcome fall in the number of still-births; also fewer illegitimate births, none of whom died. There were however, regrettably more deaths of infants in the first year of life, the greatest single cause being prematurity. In a relatively small population this figure varies widely from year to year, and expressed as a rate is of no value. There was one maternal death due to septic abortion.

A welcome reduction, even if slight, is noted in the deaths from lung cancer and coronary disease. But again, in a small number, this is not statistically significant. Three times as many males died of motor vehicle accidents as last year, but there was only one death from suicide (a woman).

Measles is one of the diseases much in the forefront of medical and lay interest. An analysis of 396 cases (with no deaths) showed that 149 of these were aged 5 to 9 years. There is a good case to be made for protective vaccination against measles before school entry, and judging by the increasing number of cases each year before then, the sooner the better after about 10 months old. Parents are free to ask their own doctor, or the clinic for this protection if they so desire. Cases of measles are most numerous every second year, so the next epidemic is likely in the winter of 1968 to spring of 1969.

Tuberculosis is declining still further - a most welcome trend indeed in public health, with only 1 death from this cause, and only 8 notifications in 1966. Twenty years ago, the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report records that there were 12 deaths and 45 cases were notified.

Throughout 1966 Geriatric Clinics were held weekly at Gresham Road Clinic Staines, and Stanwell Road Clinic, Ashford. Both Clinics started at the beginning of November, 1965, and a good case load was built up during 1966.

A County Council Assistant Medical Officer is in attendance at each Clinic supported by a Health Visitor and Clinic Nurse. Patients are thoroughly screened at an early visit and referred for any necessary treatment (Physiotherapy, Chiropody, Hearing, Eyesight, Speech or Dental) with their General Practitioner's consent.

The service is mainly preventive and advice is given on diet and the availability of the various social services, both statutory and voluntary, to meet the patients' needs. There is close liaison between the Clinic staff and the local voluntary organisations concerned with the welfare of the elderly.

In November 1966 "Well Woman" Clinics were started at The Grange Clinic, Gresham Road, Staines and Spelthorne Clinic, Chertsey Road, Ashford Common. In addition to providing facilities for cytology (smear tests) each person who attends is examined for signs of breast cancer and diabetes. All smears taken are examined at the Pathological Laboratory, Ashford Hospital and the patients' General Practitioners are notified of the results in each case by the Clinic staff.

This service has had to be strictly by appointment as so many applications were received. Several local firms employing a considerable number of female staff have asked for their employees to have these facilities. Factories have either been visited where they have suitable accommodation or block appointments made for staff to attend at one of the County Clinics.

The North West Metropolitan Mass X-Ray Unit visited the district for 2 weeks. There was a good response. 3839 persons attended, also 98 older people at a special session held at St. Martins Court. Four confirmed cases of tuberculosis were found.

May I be permitted to place on record my appreciation of the help and interest shown to me by members of the Council, and of the much valued co-operation and enthusiasm of the Public Health staff, especially of Mr. J. Mullin, Chief Public Health Inspector and of Miss L. M. Perryman, Chief Clerk.

Your obedient servant,

L.A. Matheson.

Provision of Hospitals and Clinics

HOSPITALS

Ashford Hospital, London Road, Ashford. Staines Hospital, Kingston Road, Staines.

CHEST CLINIC

Chest Clinic, Ashford Hospital, London Road, Ashford.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS, etc.,

These are provided by the Surrey County Council at the following addresses:
 "The Grange", Gresham Road, Staines. The Health Centre, Stanwell Road, Ashford.
 Stanwell Clinic, Hadrian Way, Stanwell. A mobile clinic is provided by the County to give the same services in more remote districts

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area - 8,271 acres.

Population (estimated mid-1966)	... ..	54,430
Number of houses, bungalows and flats at 1.4.66	... ..	16,413
Rateable value at 1.4.66	... ..	£3,243,194
Sum represented by a penny rate at 1st April, 1966	... ..	£13,536

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	489	448	937
Illegitimate	30	23	53
	<u>519</u>	<u>471</u>	<u>990</u>

Live Birth Rate (per thousand population)...	18.19
Comparability factor is 0.89 giving adjusted birth rate of	16.19
Birth Rate England and Wales	17.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.36

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	6	4	10
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	10.99
Still Birth Rate England and Wales	15.4
Total Live and Still Births	1001

<u>Deaths</u>	Male	229
	Female	220
	<u>449</u>	

Death Rate (per thousand population)	8.25
Comparability factor is 1.28, giving adjusted death rate of	10.56
Death Rate England and Wales	11.7
Infant Deaths under one year	19
Infant Mortality Rate (per thousand live births)	19.19
Infant Mortality Rate England and Wales	19.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	20.28
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	16.16
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	16.16
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	26.97
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	1.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	23	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	6
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	24
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	3
Diabetes	2	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	38
Coronary disease, angina	60	25
Hypertension with heart disease	-	4
Other heart disease	13	23
Other circulatory disease	6	13
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	16	17
Bronchitis	17	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1
Congenital malformations	4	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	26	27
Motor vehicle accidents	9	3
All other accidents	4	10
Suicide	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	229	220
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INFANT DEATHS												
	Under 1 day M. F.	1 - 6 days M. F.	1 week M. F.	2 weeks M. F.	3 weeks M. F.	Total under 1 month M. F.	1 - 2 months M. F.	3 - 5 months M. F.	6 - 8 months M. F.	9-11 months M. F.	Totals M. F.	
Prematurity	1	3	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4
Congenital Heart Abnormality	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Atelectasis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Broncho-pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Asphyxia	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Intra-cranial Haemorrhage	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Acute Otitis Media	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
Rhesus Incompatibility	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	3	6	5	2	-	-	8	8	2	-	11	8

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yr.	3 yr.	4 yr.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	Over 25 yrs.	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	2	3	17	-	1	1	25
Whooping Cough	3	4	4	3	3	13	-	-	3	33
Measles	17	30	59	61	68	149	6	6	-	396

	Under 5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15-44 yrs.	45-64 yrs.	65 yrs and over	Total
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	1	-	-	1
Food poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal infection	-	-	1	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	1

TUBERCULOSIS

				<u>Notifications</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
				<u>Pulm.</u>		<u>Non-Pulm.</u>		<u>Pulm.</u>		<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	
				<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0	-	1	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	4	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	14	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	24	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	34	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	44	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	54	...	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
55	-	64	...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65	-	74	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75	-	84	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
				4	-	-	3	1	-	-	-

FOOD POISONING

One case of infection by salmonella typhimurium in a child aged 4 years was notified.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

The Council provides a free service for the washing of soiled bed linen used by incontinent persons living in their own homes. Five old people used the service during the year, the cost to the Council being £34.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 to 1951

A man aged 87 was found to be living alone in filthy conditions and infirm and not receiving proper care and attention. He refused to accept any assistance and although of substantial means would not enter a private nursing home. After all persuasion had failed an Order under section 47 of the Act was made by the Magistrates and he was removed to hospital where a few months later he died.

WATER

The water supply continues to be satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Almost the whole of the area is supplied by the South West Suburban Water Co. from their works on the River Thames near Staines which takes raw water from the Thames and pumps direct to main after treatment. Some 360 dwellings in the Colnbrook part of the district are supplied by the Middle Thames Water Board and 24 dwellings near Chertsey Bridge by Woking and District Water Co. Regular chemical and bacteriological samples of the raw and treated water are taken by the Suppliers and occasional check samples by this department. The samples are invariably satisfactory.

The fluoride content of the South West Suburban and Woking water is normally 0.2 parts per million. The water supplied to the Colnbrook part of the area normally has 0.7 to 0.9 parts per million of fluoride.

At present the water supply does not have added fluoride but it is hoped the several water undertakers and the Local Authorities concerned will reach agreement on this so that in future years our children's teeth will benefit from the addition of fluorides.

SEWERAGE

The area has an adequate modern main drainage system. A new sewer is being laid to serve some 40 modern houses at present on cesspool drainage. All the sewers drain to the Mogden works of the Greater London Council.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service is under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor and is organised to provide a regular weekly collection of domestic refuse.

A special collection is given to householders on request for the removal of unwanted items of furniture and household effects. Despite this there is still dumping on roadside verges and vacant land, particularly of garden refuse and builders' rubbish.

Disposal of refuse continues to be by incineration at the Charlton Plant which is under the control of the Greater London Council.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

This section of the report provides the information required under the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959 as to the numbers of inspections made and statutory and other notices served. Statistical details are given on the various duties and legislation in the field of environmental health administered by the Department and comment is made on some of the matters dealt with.

The section on the Clean Air Act, 1956 shows the progress made towards clean air and I am very pleased to take this opportunity of mentioning the support and enthusiasm of the Council in pursuing this object. The Smoke Control Orders are acceptable to occupiers of dwellings and there have been no objections to any of the Orders, indeed occupiers are often waiting for the Orders to be confirmed in order that they might proceed with alterations to their heating appliances. The modern gas fire is now well established as the first choice even by older people. This is because the public is now changing to the fuels of convenience and the making of Smoke Control Orders accelerates the change. Grants of 100% of the approved cost are available to retired persons of limited means to avoid any possibility of hardship. These additional grants are at the discretion of the Council and are being readily applied for. The increased scale of grants and wider choice of heating appliances now available following receipt of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government circulars on this subject have increased the number of applications for grants.

The problem of noise from modern jet aeroplanes where some of the main runways extend into the district is very considerable. Despite this owners and occupiers of dwellings in the Staines and Stanwell Wards who are eligible to claim grants for soundproofing windows of their dwellings have shown a marked lack of interest in the London (Heathrow) Airport Soundproofing Scheme for soundproofing their homes and applying for a grant towards the cost.

This scheme came into operation in April 1966 and by the end of 1966 only 25 applications had been received although some 7800 dwellings are eligible. Among reasons for this are: the grant of £100 is insufficient inducement, the general public has become accustomed to airport noise and the condition requiring a ventilating unit to be provided for each soundproofed room for which grant is claimed is a strong deterrent. If the scheme is amended by increasing the amount of grant it may be more successful.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Public Health or Housing Acts	1,571
Improvement Grants	441
Rent Act, 1957	116
Overcrowding	11
Food Premises	1,626
Food Hawkers	34
Food Inspection	463
Slaughterhouse	538
Pet Animals Act	8
Drainage Works	187
Factories Act, 1961	104
Clean Air Act, 1956	3,796
Rodent Control (inspections and survey)	2,291
Pest Control	171
Keeping of Animals	21
Infectious Diseases	31
Offensive Trades	111
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	259
Public Conveniences	46
Schools	4
Pollution of streams	35
Refuse tips	154
Hairdressers (Bye Laws)	24
Laundry Service (incontinent persons)	74
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	943
Merchandise Marks Acts	425
Labelling of Food Orders	254
Miscellaneous	914
	<hr/>
	14,652

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Housing Act, 1957, Section 9	12	-
Housing Act, 1957, Overcrowding	-	-
Public Health Act, 1936	180	36
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	22	-
Factories Act, 1961	1	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	66	-
Clean Air Act, 1956	-	58
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	281	94
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HOUSING ACT, 1957Unfit Houses Beyond Repair

Undertakings accepted	Section 16	1
Closing Orders made	Section 17	...	...	...	...	...	-
Demolition Orders made	Section 18	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses demolished following Demolition Orders		...	...	...	...	...	5

Clearance Areas

Number of Clearance Areas represented	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number of unfit houses included in Areas	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number of persons to be displaced	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number of houses demolished by Local Authority or Owners:-						
(a) Unfit	...	...	...	...	...	9
(b) Others	...	...	...	...	...	-
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of families	...	...	...	...	...	4

Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices

	<u>Housing Act, 1957</u>		<u>Public Health</u>		<u>Totals</u>	
	<u>Sec. 9, 10, 16.</u>		<u>Acts</u>			
	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
By Owner	-	6	161	29	161	35
By Local Authority	-	-	-	-	-	-

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958

as amended by

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959Housing Act, 1961 and Housing Act, 1964.Improvement of DwellingsStandard Grants

No. of applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
No. of applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
No. of applications refused	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
No. of dwellings improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Total amount paid in grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	£4,702. 7.3.
Average grant per dwelling	...	...	...	...	...	...	£146.19.0.

HOUSING ACT, 1964

IMPROVEMENT AREA -

An area comprising 126 houses about 70 to 80 years old was declared an Improvement Area, the object being to improve all the houses to the full standard. A survey of the area provided the following details:-

No. of houses (excluding new development)	126
No. of owner/occupiers	59
No. of tenants	67
No. of owner/occupiers without bathrooms	12
No. of tenants without bathrooms	53
No. of owner/occupiers with bathrooms	47
No. of tenants with bathrooms	14
No. of tenants who would like bathrooms	26
No. of tenants unwilling or undecided	27

All the owners and tenants were written to explaining the improvement proposals and the grants available for improvement, and every effort was made to secure voluntary improvement.

The area was declared in March 1966 and by the end of 1966 nine houses had been improved and proposals for a further six had been approved.

HOUSING ACT, 1964, SECTION 96

It is the policy of the Water Company to require the provision of a separate water service from the main whenever alterations take place at the dwelling, such as the construction of a bathroom or dwellings in one ownership with a common service pipe passing to different ownership. Section 96 of the Housing Act, 1964 enables the Council to give assistance by making a grant to meet all or part of the cost by providing the separate service. The houses affected are usually older cottages.

Grants were made in respect of five dwellings, the total being £101.5.8.

RENT ACT, 1957Certificates of Disrepair

Number of applications for certificates	12
Number of decisions not to issue certificates	-
Number of decisions to issue certificates	
(a) in respect of some, but not all defects	3
(b) in respect of all defects	9
Number of undertakings given by landlords	8
Number of undertakings refused by local authority	-
Number of certificates issued	4

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

Applications by landlords to local authority for cancellation of certificates	2
Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	-
Decisions by local authority to cancel despite tenants' objections	-
Certificates cancelled by local authority	-

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The following caravan sites have site licences under this Act.

	<u>Residential</u> <u>Caravans</u>	<u>Holiday</u> <u>Caravans</u>
Land at Penton Hook, Staines	22	-
Harris' Boatyard, Laleham	6	18
Caretaker Sites	5	-

In addition the Council has provided a large holiday caravan and camping site at Laleham on the banks of the River Thames. This is open from May to September each year and is under the control of the Camping Club of Great Britain.

COMPLAINTS

During the year 593 complaints on all kinds of subjects were received; all were investigated and any necessary action taken.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Bakehouses	4	10
Bakers and Confectioners	18	101
Butchers Shops	33	324
Milk Distribution Depots	4	15
Clubs	20	8
Food and Drink Manufacturers	3	14
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	14	125
Food Hawkers	10	34
Grocers	65	239
Greengrocers	36	174
Public Houses & Off Licences	51	42
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	45	231
School Kitchens & Serveries	18	10
Slaughterhouses	1	538
Wholesalers	9	12
Canteens	17	20
Supermarkets	7	163
Sweets and Confectionery	54	71
	<u>409</u>	<u>2,131</u>

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

	Tons	Cwt.	Lbs.
Meat at slaughterhouse	1	-	71
Meat at wholesale premises	-	5	23
Meat at retail shops	-	6	12
Cooked meat and meat products	-	2	75
Canned meats	-	1	63
Fish	-	-	106
Fruit and vegetables	-	8	23
Other Foods	-	10	16
	<u>2</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>53</u>

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

<u>Category</u>	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16.</u>	<u>No. where Reg. 19 applies</u>	<u>No. complying with Reg. 19</u>
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4
Bakers & Confectioners	18	18	18	18
Butchers	33	33	33	33
Milk Distribution Depots	4	4	4	4
Food and Drink Manufacturers	3	3	3	3
Fishmongers & Fishfriers	14	14	14	14
Grocers	65	65	65	65
Greengrocers	36	32	36	36
Public Houses & Off Licences	51	51	51	51
Restaurants, Cafes & Snack Bars	45	44	45	45
School Kitchens & Serveries	18	18	18	18
Slaughterhouses	1	1	1	1
Wholesale Warehouses	9	9	9	9
Works Canteens	17	17	17	17
Supermarkets	7	7	7	7
Sweets & Tobacco	54	50	54	54
	<u>379</u>	<u>370</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>379</u>

FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATIONMilk

Practically all milk supplied to this area is bulked milk bottled by large dairy firms distributing milk over a wide area.

2 samples of fresh milk, 2 samples of evaporated milk and one sample of milk powder were submitted to the public analyst, and all were found to be genuine.

A sample of Long-life Cream submitted for analysis was found to contain 19% of milk fat. Sterilised cream should contain a minimum of 23% of milk fat, whereas ordinary cream need only contain 18%. This sample, although commercially sterilised, is not sold as such but sold under another name which may or may not mean the same thing to the purchaser. There is possibility for confusion and therefore the need for regulations here.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959Brucellosis

All the milk supply is pasteurised with the exception of some three gallons per day produced in another area from a tuberculin tested herd for persons who demand untreated milk.

Meat and Meat Products

7 samples of various products were submitted for analysis and found to be genuine.

A sample of tinned stewed steak showed some evidence that a proportion of corned beef had been used in the article but it was not subject to scientific proof. Investigations revealed that the firm concerned had gone into liquidation and no further stocks were in circulation.

34 samples of various meat products were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

Drugs

20 samples of proprietary drugs and medicines were submitted for analysis, and reported as genuine.

Other Foods

85 samples of various foods and proprietary drinks were submitted for analysis. 81 of these were proved to be genuine and satisfactory.

1 sample of milk bread loaf and 2 samples of milk bread rolls were found to contain no whole milk solids contrary to the Bread and Flour Regulations 1963. The firm concerned decided to discontinue the manufacture of this product.

A butter cream doughnut had a filling comprising a mixture of butter and margarine. After a warning had been given, a further sample was taken and the filling found to contain genuine butterfat only.

15 samples of various foods including 4 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All samples were satisfactory and each ice cream sample was placed in provisional grade 1.

Pesticide Residues in Foodstuffs

Joint Sampling Scheme

This scheme, sponsored by the Local Authorities Associations, provides for the sampling of specific foods by each constituent Food and Drugs Authority.

Samples of margarine and potatoes were submitted for examination and both were found to contain less than 0.02 p.p.m. organo-chlorine insecticides, which was acceptable.

Labelling of Food Order, 1953

This Order requires pre-packed food to be marked with the name and address or with the registered trademark of the packer or labeller. It also requires such food to be labelled with its common or usual name (if any) and in the case of a compounded food, with the names of the ingredients in descending order or proportion of weight. It also controls the manner in which the presence of vitamins and minerals is disclosed, and prescribes specific labelling of certain food.

A sample of dried skimmed milk packaged in this district did not conform to the Dried Milk Regulations, 1965.

A sample of blueberry pie filling was found to contain glucose syrup (hydrolised starch) which does not have the same composition as glucose as specified on the label.

A sample of sweets labelled "Malted Milk with Glucose" and "Malted Milk Tonic Sweets" was found to contain glucose syrup (hydrolised starch) and not glucose. The description of the sweets as 'Tonic Sweets' was undesirable, and misleading, the name being that of the manufacturing company.

A sample of soft cheese and Liptauer specified on the label that it included 'biochemic salt' which, as a little known proprietary homoeopathic salt made

with lactose and a minute trace of sodium chloride or other salt, was not an appropriate designation.

All infringements were taken up with the manufacturers concerned, and satisfactory relabelling or reconstitution of the product concerned was secured.

Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887-1953

425 inspections were made to ensure that the requirements of the various Marking Orders made under the Merchandise Marks Acts were complied with.

Food Complaints

45 complaints concerning purchases of various articles of food were made to the Department during the year. 33 complaints alleged unfitness of the food and 12 complaints concerned foreign bodies or extraneous matter in the food. After investigation of the circumstances of each complaint, 40 were dealt with satisfactorily by informal action and 5 resulted in proceedings being taken against the firms responsible.

Legal Proceedings

A bakery situated outside the district was fined £20 with 5 guineas costs, with an award of 25 guineas costs to the local supermarket at which the sale of mouldy chocolate eclairs took place.

A Staines bakery was fined £20 with 10 guineas costs for the sale of a mouldy apple turnover and mouldy gooseberry tart.

An ice-cream manufacturer situated outside the district was fined £10 with 10 guineas costs for selling an ice lollie containing a garden slug.

A well-known pie manufacturer was given a conditional discharge with 25 guineas costs for selling a meat pie containing a screw.

An employee of an Ashford butcher's shop was fined £3 plus 3 guineas costs for smoking whilst handling open food.

MEAT INSPECTION AT SLAUGHTERHOUSE

One slaughterhouse is licensed. The table shows the number of animals killed, gives details of the inspections of the carcasses and the conditions found.

A total of 8345 animals was killed. All the carcasses were inspected although there was killing during evenings and weekends throughout the year.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 enable the Council to make a charge for the inspection of carcasses; the charges were fixed at:-

Cattle	2/6d. per carcass
Calves, sheep and lambs	6d. " "
Pigs	9d. " "

A total of £329.4.3d. was received from the proprietor of the slaughterhouse for this service.

The Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations 1966 enable the Local Authority to control hours of slaughtering. Control of hours of slaughtering facilitates inspection of carcasses and marks a departure from the old practice of butchers killing at night and weekends. There are no real grounds for this, and it was possible after considerable negotiation to arrive at agreed hours of slaughtering which eliminated Sunday slaughter. It was not therefore necessary to make a formal order controlling hours. The hours are present fixed are:-

Monday)	
Tuesday)	
Wednesday	)	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday)	
Friday		7 a.m. to 12 noon.
Saturday		7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

538 visits were made to the slaughterhouse to inspect meat.

1 ton 71 lbs of meat was condemned as unfit.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

in whole or in part

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	699	58	113	3884	3591	--
Number inspected	699	58	113	3884	3591	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	100	5	1	63	149	-
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than tu- berculosis	14.31	8.62	0.885	1.62	4.09	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	13	-
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.36	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration treatment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956Industrial Smoke

In this mainly residential area industrial smoke and grit emission is of a minor nature. Two contraventions of the Act by the emission of dark smoke from industrial premises were dealt with.

Under Section 3 of the Act, five notifications of installations of furnaces were received and two submissions for prior approval of furnaces were made.

Under Section 10, chimney heights of boiler plants of two new buildings were raised to a height sufficient to avoid nuisance.

Domestic Smoke Control Areas

The extension of the smoke control areas continued, and the figures below show the progress made:-

No. of smoke control areas

1.	(a)	In operation at 31st December 1966	6
	(b)	Number of dwellings	8859
	(c)	Acreage covered	6207
2.	(a)	Confirmed by Minister but not operative at 31st December, 1966	1
	(b)	Number of dwellings	1020
	(c)	Acreage covered	157
3.	(a)	Awaiting confirmation by Minister at 31st December, 1967	1
	(b)	Number of dwellings	1218
	(c)	Acreage covered	140

68% of the dwellings and 78% of the acreage of the district is now covered. Observations during the winter months showed that householders have complied with the smoke control orders quite well although there were some contraventions.

Although it is an offence on the part of the occupier to use bituminous coal and produce smoke in a smoke control area, it is not an offence on the part of the merchant to sell bituminous coal to householders within the area. This is a weakness in the Act which ought to be dealt with in any amending legislation.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of offices, shops and railway premises registered was 562 and 41 new registrations were received during the year. 559 of the 562 premises registered received a general inspection and the total number of visits for all purposes, that is, general inspections plus reinspections was 943.

Operation and General Provisions of the Act

The Act is administered by the Public Health Inspectors, each dealing with the registered premises on his own district. The work has now settled into a routine, and I find that the requirements of the legislation are accepted and complied with. Probably enforcement is made easier by the shortage of labour in this area. It was not found necessary to grant exemptions from any of the provisions, and generally it is found now that such matters as the provision of washing facilities and sanitary facilities have been met, the main items needing attention on further inspections are the provision and content of first-aid boxes, maintenance of the prescribed temperature, improvement of lighting and accident prevention.

Most of the food vendors and catering premises have food slicing machines. Particular attention is being paid to the safeguarding of the knives on such machines and employers are being requested to fit guards.

A survey of lighting in offices and shops shows that the parts of such premises open to the public were adequately lighted, but that passages and work rooms needed improved lighting. Particular attention was paid to lighting over machinery such as slicing machines and guillotines.

Two complaints of unsatisfactory heating were made by employees of shops. In both cases the heating was improved.

Accidents

Eight accidents were reported. All except one were of a minor nature and due to mishap or some lack of care on the part of employees. One fatal accident was investigated when an office cleaner died of carbon monoxide poisoning due to the inhalation of fumes emitted by an anthracite central heating boiler fitted in the kitchen of a fuel order office and domestic heating centre.

Legal Action

Prosecution of the employer in the fatal accident referred to above was considered. Formal proceedings were not taken on legal advice because of the particular circumstances, and a formal warning was given.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a visit
Offices	15	150	150
Retail Shops	22	363	360
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	11	11
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	3	37	37
Fuel storage depots	-	1	1
Totals:	41	562	559

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found	Section	Number of Contraventions found
4 Cleanliness	12	15 Eating facilities	1
5 Overcrowding	-	16 Floors, passages and stairs	17
6. Temperature	21	17 Fencing exposed parts machinery	-
7 Ventilation	1	18 Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
8 Lighting	1	19 Training of young persons at ditto.	-
9 Sanitary Conveniences	17	23 Prohibition of heavy work	-
10 Washing facilities	25	24 First Aid General provisions	23
11 Supply of drinking water	1		
12 Clothing accommodation	2		
13 Sitting facilities	1		
14 Seats (Sedentary workers)	-		
		Total	122

Reported Accidents

Workplace	Number Reported	Total No. investigated	Action recommended			No Action
			Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal Advice	
Offices	2	1	-	1	-	1
Retail Shops	4	-	-	-	-	4
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	-	-	-	-	1
Catering Establishments open to public, Canteens	1	-	-	-	-	1
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	8	1	-	1	-	7

Analysis of reported accidents

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale Warehouses	Catering establishments open to public, canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
Machinery	-	-	-	-	-
Transport	-	-	-	-	-
Falls of persons	1	3	-	-	-
stepping on or striking against object or person	-	-	1	-	-
Handling goods	-	2	-	-	-
Struck by falling object	-	-	-	-	-
Fires and explosions	-	-	-	-	-
Electricity	-	-	-	-	-
Use of hand tools	-	-	-	-	-
Not otherwise specified	1	-	-	-	-

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL ACTSDeposit of Refuse

Seven wet gravel pits are being filled with refuse, other than domestic refuse, under consents issued by this Council under the Surrey County Council Acts. These consents limit the types of refuse that can be deposited, the object being to ensure that only materials that will not give rise to nuisance are deposited. Control and supervision is necessary to ensure that the conditions are complied with because, if prohibited materials are deposited in water, it is very difficult to deal with the offensive smell that arises from the polluted water. Action had to be taken against one contractor where considerable nuisance from smell developed through pollution of a pit. In this case the treatment of the contaminated water by sodium dichromate followed by aeration proved very effective.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The services of the Council's rodent operator are available without charge to occupiers of domestic premises, and this service is well used. Most of the domestic infestations are of a minor nature and these would be considerably reduced if food and shelter were not so often available under garden sheds and accumulations of rubbish.

Industrial and commercial premises are advised to make arrangements with pest destruction firms for keeping their premises free from infestation, and the majority do so, but the Council will on request treat such premises on a recovery of costs basis. No major rodent infestations were seen.

739 infestations by rats or mice were dealt with. 2291 visits were made for survey and treatment,

No. of PREMISES REGISTERED

Riding Establishments Act, 1964	Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964	Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	Pet Animals Act, 1957.
3	9	3	4

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	7	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	265	98	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises	17	6	1	-
Total	289	104	1	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel-Making, etc.	13	-	-	-	-	-

